Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08249 181744Z ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 L-03 XMB-02 /100 W -------102720 182204Z /75

R 181717Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0917

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

ALSO FOR USEEC FOR INFO

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, PO, BE

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR PORTUGAL

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08249 181744Z

REF: (A) STATE 163429, (B) BRUSSELS 7463 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE LOANS TO PORTUGAL AS WELL AS THE USEFULNESS OF MORE PRECISE DATA FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. IN THE CASE OF BELGIUM, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO TRY TO PIN THE GOVERNMENT DOWN AT THIS STAGE.

- 2. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, THE BELGIANS HAVE NOT YET OFFICIALLY INDICATED THEIR PARTICIPATION, MUCH LESS AMOUNTS. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS DELAY CAN BE TRACED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY UNHAPPINESS WITH THE CABINET'S DECISION ON ONLY \$3 MILLION. THE MFA IS NOW GATHERING AMMUNITION TO UP THE ANTE AS WE HAVE URGED (SEE REFTEL B AND PREVIOUS). THIS WILL BE A DIFFICULT MANEUVER FOR SIMONET, HOWEVER, AND MAY TAKE SOME TIME.
- 3. GIVEN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTEREST AT THIS TIME TO REQUEST FURTHER DETAILS. IF PRESSED NOW, THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO AFFIRM THE DECISION WE HAVE NOW--AND, ONCE THIS IS PASSED TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, ANY SUBSEQUENT CHANGE WOULD BE UNLIKELY. WE THUS PROPOSE TO PASS THE SUBSTANCE OF PARAGRAPH 6 REFTEL A TO THE BELGIANS FOR THEIR INFORMATION, CONTINUE TO PRESS QUIETLY FOR A MORE GENEROUS BELGIAN CONTRIBUTION, BUT NOT FOR THE TIME BEING REQUEST OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OR DETAILS ON THEIR PLANS. CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a

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Disposition Event:
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TAGS: EFIN, PO, BE

To: STATE Type: TE

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